FRONT * UFO NEWSFRONT * UFO NEWSFRONT * UFO NEW
UFO NEWSFRONT * UFO NEWSFRONT * UFO NEWSFRONT *
* * * THE LATEST UFO NEWS EVENTS, PREPARED AS WE GO TO PRESS - DECEMBER 28, 1977 * *

NASA AND ITS UFO INVOLVEMENT: THAT'S THAT -

The long-awaited NASA conclusion on whether or not the U.S. government should re-enter the arena of active UFO research has been given, and it is a definite "no". NASA's stand is outlined in the following statement, obtained from the Public Information Office:

"We have given considerable thought to the question of what else the United States might and should do in the area of UFO research. There is an absence of tangible evidence available for thorough laboratory analysis and because of the absence of such evidence we have not been able to devise a sound scientific procedure to investigate the phenomenon. To proceed on a research task without a disciplinary framework or an exploratory technique in mind to find ways in which the problem can be studied would be wasteful and unproductive. I do not feel that we could mount a research effort without a better starting point than we have been able to identify thus far. I would therefore propose that NASA take no steps to establish a research activity in this area...on the UFO subject. This should in no way indicate that NASA has come to any conclusions about the phenomenon as such. Institutionally, we will keep an open mind and maintain our scientific curiosity and a willingness to analyse technical problems within our competance."

UNITED NATIONS SHELVES UFO INVOLVEMENT -

Grenada has withdrawn its resolution to set up a special U.N. agency for the study of unidentified flying objects. In its place, Sir Eric Gairy has circulated a special draft resolution directed at Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim which urges the U.N. to conduct an investigation into the UFO problem and into the prospects for contact with extraterrestrial life. This item has just been finished in the Special Political Committee. No delegations other than Grenada commented on the proposal and a recommendation was adopted by unanimous vote: the draft resolution will be circulated to the member states but there will be no voting on the resolution. If there are no inquiries from any of these states, then the item will not necessarily be put on the agenda of the 33rd General Assembly in September, 1978.

CIA SUED OVER UFO "COVER-UP" -

Henry Rothblatt (former counsellor for several of the "Watergate" burglars) and Peter Gersten are suing the Central Intelligence Agency on behalf of Harvey Brody, an executive of Ground Saucer Watch, Inc. of Phoenix, Arizona. The basis of the suit is a claim by GSW that when the Robertson Panel report was released, it was released in an incomplete form and minus certain important details. GSW is also attempting to use the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act to force the C.I.A. to reveal its entire records on UFOs. Rothblatt has stated that there exists documented evidence that the CIA collects and stores UFO information despite their public position which states that UFOs are not worth investigating. Letters from Gene F. Wilson, information and privacy co-ordinator of the CIA, to GSW have apparently acknowledged that certain documents have not been released since their release might endanger national security. The case is of potential importance since, even should GSW lose its suit, the CIA would be forced to admit the existence of UFOs since only if it can prove that UFOs are essential to the national security could it legally withhold such information, if it exists.

# INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER T.M.

VOL. 3, NO. 1 JAN. 1978

**A MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE UFO PHENOMENON**
**REPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS & ANALYSES**


*"There is no hope of advance in science without a paradox."*—Niels Bohr

## INTERNATIONAL ISSUE

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IUR OBTAINS THE GUATEMALA TAPE

**WHAT THE GOVERNMENT SAYS ABOUT THE IRAN UFO CASE**

**4 UFOS SELECTED FROM 54 CASES:**
**Nov. 15-Dec. 14**


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# EDITORIAL

**by Dr. J. Allen Hynek**

The exchange of letters between President Carter's science advisor, Dr. Frank Press and Dr. Robert Frosch, NASA's Administrator, relative to the request that NASA (a) handle UFO correspondence received by the White House (and there appears to be a fair amount of this) and (b) examine the flow of UFO reports over the past ten years since the Condon Report to see whether there have been any significant developments, and (c) to make recommendations to the President's office for possible in-depth study, has given rise to a wave of speculation. What will NASA's answer be? . . . Will they try to sidestep the official request? . . . Can they disregard such an official request?

I spoke with David Williamson of NASA, who was widely quoted in the press recently about NASA's possible role in the UFO controversy, who spoke of the problems involved should NASA undertake an excursion into UFO matters. First of all, he pointed out, the NASA budget for fiscal '79 is already in, and there is no provision for a UFO investigation of any extent. Apart from that, Mr. Williamson and his associates at NASA recognize that the UFO problem transcends strictly scientific matters, involving as it does many sociological, psychological, political, and public relations problems as well. Williamson pointed out that NASA's responsibilities are quite narrowly defined and it is not clear to him that NASA is equipped to involve itself in these many other aspects. As he put it, should the taxpayer's money be used by NASA "in the absence of a disciplinary framework" for the UFO problem? That is, if one had a part of a "nuts and bolts" UFO, then NASA has the laboratory facilities to test it to the hilt, but in what NASA laboratory does one test anecdotal accounts of UFO experiences? (cont. on news page)

J. Allen Hynek

## CORRESPONDENCE

I am compiling a research file on the famous Quarouble case (France) September 10, 1954. (Witness: Marius Dewilde.) I would be happy to receive all pertinent important data about this landing case. If requested, entries will be handled in confidence.

Jacques Bonabot
Leopol I laan, 141
B-8000 BRUGES
Belgium

## IN CURRENT JOURNALS

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND, by Ted Bloecher, FATE MAGAZINE, January 1978

"They (CE III's) are significant because they provide information about the UFO mystery that we do not get from the far more frequent yet often inconclusive reports of random night lights. With CE III's, the chance of misidentification of conventional objects is minimal—these are close-range sightings of structured objects which sometimes leave traces at the site or produce physical effects upon people or machinery.

Generally speaking, they can be explained in only three ways: (1) as a hoax (either the witness is lying or he is the victim of someone else's practical joke); (2) as a temporary delusion or a psychotic aberration; (3) as a "real" experience reported as accurately and honestly as the witness is capable of reporting it."

EYEWITNESS TESTIMONY AND ITS PROBLEMS IN UFO INVESTIGATION, by Ron Westrum, APRO BULLETIN, August, 1977

"One of the most useful lessons of this literature is that it recalls to us that the process of investigation affects the data we get. When a sighting is reported to an investigator, the way in which the information is elicited affects the answers the percipient gives. In particular, study after study has demonstrated the effect of suggestion on testimony. What the investigator suggests to the percipient in the process of questioning often strongly influences what the percipient tells the investigator and even what the percipient comes to believe what actually took place."

## BOOK REVIEW

**UFOs, THE EYE, AND THE CAMERA, Adrian Vance, Barlemir House, 1977, 150 pages.**

A book on UFO photography by the West Coast editor of POPULAR PHOTOGRAPHY, a professional photographer who has had great experience in both using and interpreting photographic evidence, seems like a good idea. However, in practice this book falls into the category of enthusiastic speculation by an author in every field *except* that one in which he has particular competence. The most interesting and informative sections of the book deal with the physical characteristics of the human eye and the camera, and also with some of the internal histories of various well-known UFO incidents.

Mr. Vance's major hypothesis is that we are being visited by aliens from possibly another dimension who are eminently capable of time travel and operate a finite number of space ships (there is one permanently assigned to the West Coast, for instance) which appear in various localities such as the Bermuda Triangle. In support of his hypothesis, he advances certain UFO photographs which have superficial resemblances such as the Alaska, Sedona, and Oregon photographs and claims that these all represent observations of the same craft as it travels through time. Other UFO photographs which show conventional disc-shaped objects are simply instances in which these craft are supposedly caught in their "normal" flying mode. However, the author advances absolutely no convincing arguments to persuade the reader; clearly, this is strictly an emotional issue with him. His speculations on UFO propulsion systems (variations on electromagnetic repulsions and attractions warping space in their immediate environs) reveal that the author is familiar with only a layman's understanding of general relativity. In general, the book suffers from Vance's stance as an enthusiastic layman discoursing on subjects about which he really knows relatively little. Inaccuracies abound as a consequence.

Finally, the impact of the book is lessened still further by the fact that Vance falls into a common trap: he believes absolutely every detail which appears anywhere in print, regardless of the source. This is particularly painful when he exhumes the same tired specific incidents cited by Berlitz of disappearances within the Bermuda Triangle—incidents which have been documented to have occurred in a distinctly different and non-mysterious manner than that reported by Berlitz.

It looks like we still have to wait for that definitive book on UFO photography and its interpretation. This isn't it. Not recommended.

# FOREIGN FORUM

*This is a representative sampling of UFO sightings from around the world. While we cannot exert the same degree of control over these cases compared to domestic ones, it is at least of value to see that the same characteristics are reported for this phenomenon abroad as in the U.S.*

**URUGUAY:** Rocha, April 19, 1977. Santiago Laco Ozano, a 32-year old rural worker, was distracted from milking cows by a strange noise and an intense illumination of an area 300 meters around him. Looking up, he then noticed a small object giving off this powerful beam. At that point he fainted and upon recovering about five minutes later, he noticed that his hair was slightly burned. Upon admittance to a local hospital the burnt hair was verified as was the fact that his scalp had no lesions. At the hospital he was also submitted to a psychiatric examination, the results of which revealed that Ozano was a "normal person" with no history of previous mental disorders who had apparently undergone a frightening experience.

SOURCE: UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE, Rt. 1, Box 220, Plumersville, ARK

**NORWAY:** Nybygda, Ringerike, November 1, 1977. Two 14-year old boys, Johnny Myhr and Frank Sverre, observed a flying object coming out of the north as they were walking home from a school bus station. They observed the light-green object to land about 100 meters away in a newly-ploughed field. A figure was observed to be inside the object, behind one of the windows, and was roughly human-like in proportions. After ten seconds, the object lifted off and left three equally-spaced marks in the ground. The sighting was partially corroborated by one of the attendants at the school who saw a shining object at the same time and place, though from too great a distance to discern any details. The case is being investigated by the Norsk UFO Center who report that each imprint is foot-formed and was caused by an object with a curved bottom. Each print is 36 cm long and 7-14.5 cm wide. In all of the prints, the narrowest side pointed towards the common center of the trace.

SOURCE: Norsk UFO Center Ostlandet, Drammen, Norway.

# U.S. SIGHTINGS

## 4 UFOS SELECTED FROM 54 CASES: Nov. 15-Dec. 14

50 reports were judged to be identifiable or inappropriate.
No reports are still under investigation.
Refer to the monthly "Profile" feature for complete evaluations.

**HOW WE LEARN OF UFO'S:** UFO reports are from news departments, civilian organizations and individuals all over the world, but most of our reports stem from the Center for UFO Studies' UFO Central Hotline. This is a 24-hour, toll-free telephone service for the exclusive use of law enforcement agencies, FAA agencies, planetaria and other formal channels. This gives us the chance to follow up *all* cases rapidly for first-hand information with unlimited long-distance capability. Other advantages include screening of the hoaxers Indeed, police who patrol when others are asleep are encouraged to fill this void.

**HOW WE DEFINE UFO'S:** Any anomalous aerial phenomena whose appearance and/or behavior can't be ascribed to conventional objects and effects—not only by the original witnesses, but also by analysts who possess technical qualifications the original observer may lack.

**NL**—Nocturnal Light: distant anomalous lights seen in the night sky
**DD**—Daylight Discs: distant disc-like objects seen during the day
**RV**—Radar/Visual: UFOs seen by radar and vision simultaneously

**CE I**—Close Encounter of the First Kind: UFOs seen within 500 feet
**CE II**—Close Encounter of the Second Kind: CE I's that leave behind physical traces
**CE III**—Close Encounter of the Third Kind: CE I with humanoid occupants seen

**HOW WE NUMBER CASES:** All UFO sightings will receive a three element number which will serve as a case "name". The first numbers refer to the volume and issue number of the edition that contains the case, and the last number refers to the order it arrived (example: 1-1-7, the seventh case of the first issue).

## UFOs of Limited Merit

*These reports are of intermediate stature. They are UFOs in the sense that we don't know what they are, but for a variety of* stated *reasons, they are not really worthy of closer scrutiny.*

| CASE | TYPE | DATE | TIME | DURATION | WITNESSES | PLACE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3-1-12 | NL | 11-18-77 | 5:30 AM | 30-45 min. | 1 | Richmond, VA |

An early morning hunter noted an object 4 or 5 times the size of the full moon to rise up out of the woods about 300 yds. away. The object was smokey-gray and egg-shaped with one white light on the top and two lights on the bottom which flashed from red to white. It rose staight up and picked up speed as it got higher. As the sky became light, it faded and disappeared almost directly overhead.

*Single witness case which must be accepted as a UFO with qualifications. The description can be ascribed to a lighted balloon but when IUR contacted the weather bureau, the Richmond Air Traffic Control, and the Washington Air Route Traffic Control, none of these organizations could confirm that any balloons of this type had been launched from anywhere near Richmond at that time. It was still too early for the 6 AM weather balloon release. No research groups that would use such balloons could be found. Possible balloon.*

---

| CASE | TYPE | DATE | TIME | DURATION | WITNESSES | PLACE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3-1-20 | NL | 11-24-77 | 10 PM | 15-20 sec. | 1+ | Smyrna, GA |

A 39-year old polygraph examiner with extensive experience as a private pilot and a sailor was sitting on her porch watching the moon when she was startled to notice an object the size of a distant aircraft fly out from in front of the moon. As she watched, the object hovered for a few seconds, shot straight up, hovered again, and then tilted over and flew back in front of the moon. It was not seen to re-emerge on the other side of the disc. The object was white in color, intensely luminous, and shaped like a truncated spherical hemisphere. When the object tilted towards her, she noted that the bottom flat portion was surrounded by two "Saturn-like" rings of light which were definitely separated from the rest of the object. At no time did the object block out a silhouette on the Moon's disc, although it was seen to move behind some evening mist. A second woman called outside by the original witness did corroborate the last five seconds or so of the sighting but could only make out a bright light moving into the glare of the moonlight.

*IUR contacted the local FAA facilities, who did not log anything unusual or receive any further reports. The witness herself contacted the Atlanta Forces Command who in turn contacted NORAD. The Public Affairs Office at NORAD informed us that while a log is kept of such military requests, nothing can be done about them since they lie outside of their immediate defense mission. [If it's already seen in Smyrna, GA, as far as NORAD is concerned, it's already too late!]. Moondogs don't move!*

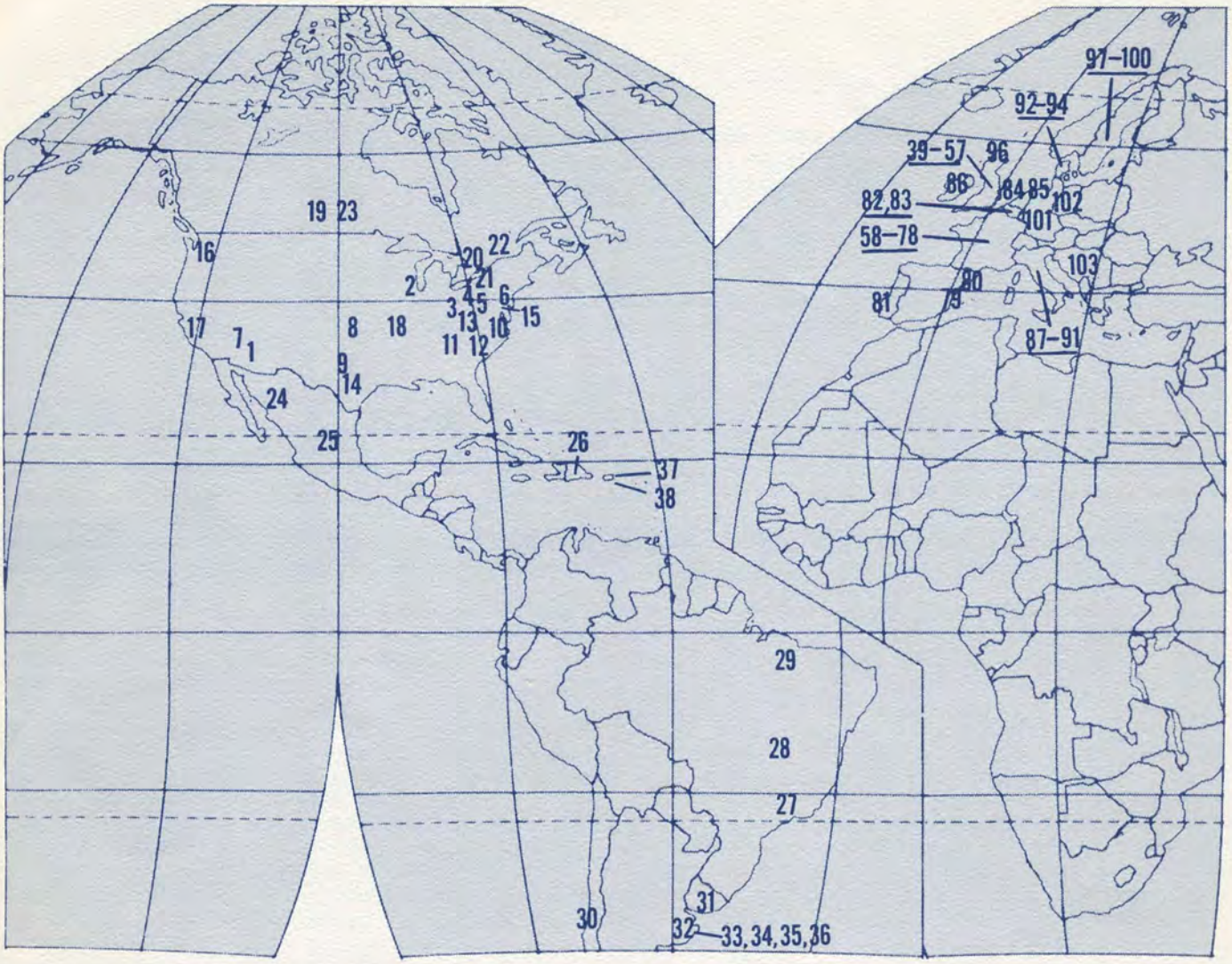
---

| CASE | TYPE | DATE | TIME | DURATION | WITNESSES | PLACE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3-1-30 | NL | 12-1-77 | 8:28 PM | 5 min. | 1+ | Elm City, NC |

A 21-year old electrician was driving east to see his girlfriend near Elm City when he saw an extremely large (1' at arm's length) object slowly drifting into view from the north. The object had one very intense headlight in front, 4 to 6 blue lights around the edges, and many red and white lights forming "portholes" along the sides. It was shaped like a torpedo with four swept-back fins at the back with a round band connecting them. The object made a humming sound ("similar to a plane"). Arriving at his destination, the witness called his girlfriend and her parents outside to see it but by the time that they arrived, the object was too far off to be seen in great detail. The object was definitely seen between the witness and the overcast and moved off into the distance in a straight line over the horizon.

*This sighting begs a natural explanation. IUR has checked with the closest airports and found no blimp or dirigible activity, though the airport at Kinston did say that there were quite a number of hot-air balloonists in the area who had been particularly active during that week. No ad plane company could be established as being in the area. The Wilton County Sheriff's Department did say that another man had reported seeing this "same" object on the same night and time but since he saw it closer, he was*

(cont. on news page)




# UFO ORGANIZATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

AN IUR ROUND-UP OF GROUPS DEDICATED TO THE STUDY OF UFOs

*Many readers within the boundaries of the United States may have gotten the impression that the only groups in the world doing serious UFO research are the major U.S. civilian study groups. Far from it! IUR has gathered the names and locations of well over a hundred UFO organizations who are involved in the world-wide UFO scene. Each one of these organizations is active in either collecting and investigating reports, organizing conferences and lectures, collecting UFO literature sources, initiating special projects of either a technical or statistical nature, and most put out a journal or newsletter of some sort.*

*IUR can not take the responsibility of vouching for the seriousness, productivity, or personal directions of each of these groups. Neither can we claim to have included all possible groups! In a work such as this, it is inevitable that some excellent and valid organizations have been overlooked. If these are brought to our attention, we will be happy to run them in a future update article on the world-wide organizations.*

## UNITED STATES

**1 Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO)**
Tucson, Arizona
**2 Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS)**
Evanston, Illinois
**3 Civil Commission on Aerial Phenomena**
Queensbridge, Ohio
**4 Cleveland Aerial Phenomena Investigations Club**
Cleveland, Ohio
**5 Cleveland UFOlogy Project**
Cleveland, Ohio
**6 Contact International**
Denville, New Jersey
**7 Ground Saucer Watch (GSW)**
Phoenix, Arizona
**8 International UFO Bureau**
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
**9 Mutual UFO Network (MUFON)**
Seguin, Texas
**10 National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP)**
Kensington, Maryland
**11 Oak Ridge Isochronous Observation Network (ORION)**
Oak Ridge, Tennessee
**12 Odyssey Scientific Research**
Baltimore, Maryland
**13 Pennsylvania Center for UFO Studies**
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
**14 Project Starlight International (PSI)**
Austin, Texas
**15 Society for the Investigation of the Unexplained**
Columbia, New Jersey
**16 UFO Research Commission**
Seattle, Washington
**17 UFO Research Institute**
Lawndale, California
**18 UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis**
St. Louis, Missouri

## CANADA

**19 Canadian Aerial Phenomena Research Organization**
Winnipeg, Manitoba
**20 New Horizons Research Foundation**
Toronto, Ontario
**21 Project S.U.M. UFO Research**
St. Catharines, Ontario
**22 UFO Research Centre—Ontario**
Toronto, Ontario
**23 Winnipeg Independent Research Center**
Winnipeg, Manitoba

## MEXICO

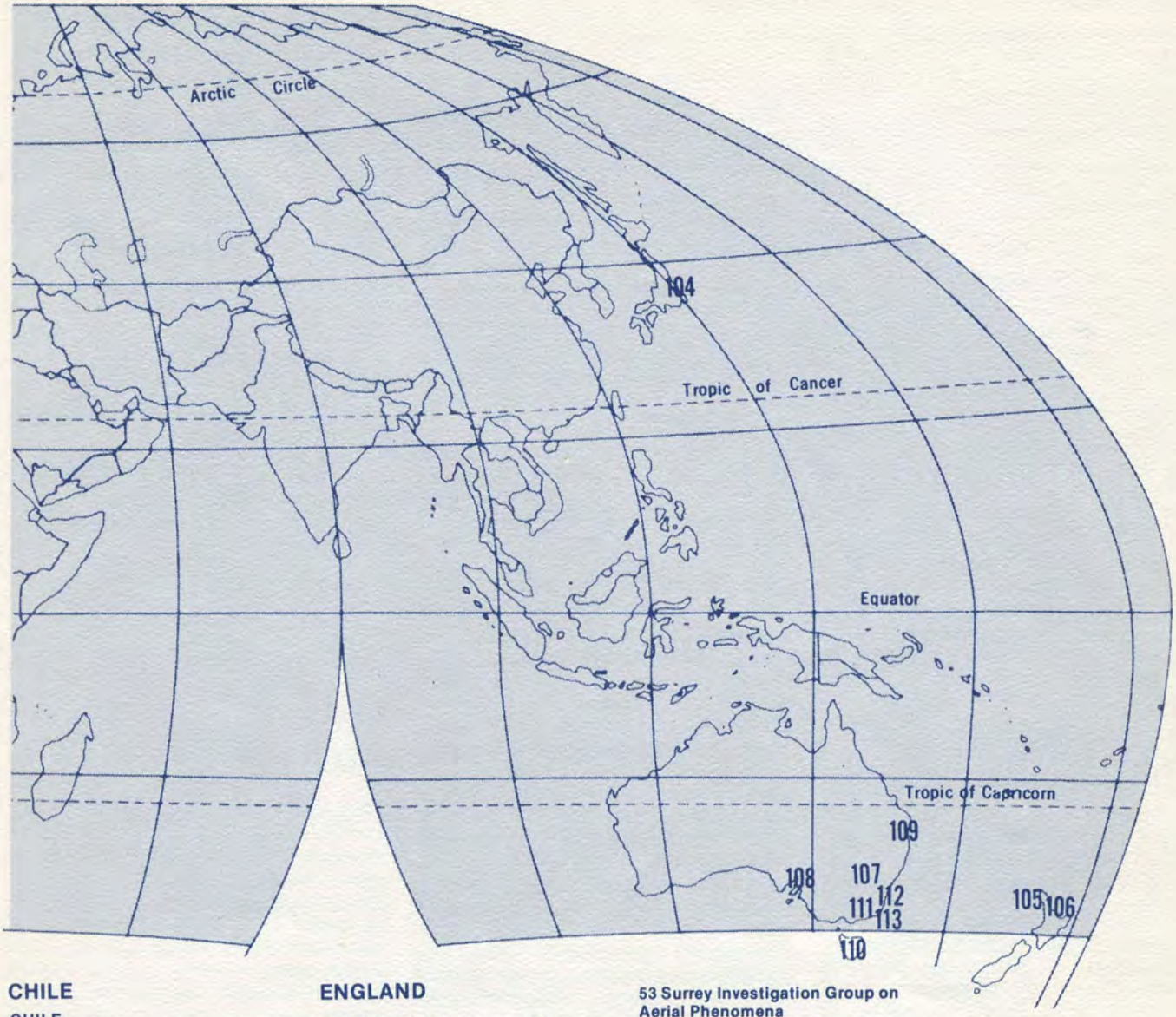
**24 Asociasion Investicadora del Fenomeno Ovni**
Hermosillo
**25 Centro para la Investigacion e Informacion del Fenomeno Ovni y Parapsicologia**
Colonia Cuauhtemoc

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**26 Grupo Observador de Fenemenos y Objetos Siderales (GOFOS)**
Santiago de los Caballeros

## BRAZIL

**27 Associacao Brasileira de Estudo das Civilizcoes Extra-terrestres**
Sao Paolo
**28 Associacao Brasiliense de Pesquisa e Cultura**
Brasilia
**29 Comissae de Estudos da Vida Estraterrestre na Terre (CEVET)**
Caxias do Sul




## CHILE

**CHILE**
**30 UFO Chile**
Santiago

## URUGUAY

**31 Centro de Investigacion de Objetos Voladores Inidentificados**
Montevideo

## ARGENTINA

**32 Centro de Estudios de Fenomeneos Aereos Inusuales (CEFAI)**
Buenos Aires
**33 Centro de Investigacion de Formas de Vida Estraterrestre**
Buenos Aires
**34 Circulo Argentino de Investigaciones UFOlogicas**
Buenos Aires
**35 O.N.I.F.E.**
Buenos Aires
**36 Servicio de Investigaciones UFOlogicas**
Capital Federal

## PUERTO RICO

**37 C.E.O.V.N.I.**

**38 S.E.F.I.N.I.**

## ENGLAND

**39 British UFO Documentation Centre (BUDC)**
London
**40 British UFO Research Association (BUFORA)**
London
**41 Contact (UK)**
Oxford
**42 DIGAP**
South Lancaster
**43 FAPURG**
West Lancaster
**44 Flying Saucer Review (FSR)**
Maidstone
**45 MUFORA**
Manchester
**46 Northern UFO Network (NUFON)**
(various)
**47 Nottingham UFO Investigation Society**
Nottingham
**48 PULSE**
Preston
**49 SDRUFORA**
Kimberworth Park
**50 SPRING**
Sherwood
**51 SPUR**
Kettering
**52 SUFORS**
Scunthorpe
**53 Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena**
Camberly
**54 UFO Investigation Network**
Greater Manchester
**55 UFORA**
Porthill
**56 UFOSIS**
Birmingham
**57 WUFOS**
Bromborough

## FRANCE

**58 ARFA**
Pessac
**59 Association des Amis de Marc Thirouin (AAMT)**
**60 Centre d'Etudes and de Recherches des Phenomens Inexpliques (CERPI)**
Saintes
**61 Centre National de Recherches**
Yutz
**62 Cercle Francais de Recherches UFOlogiques (CFRU)**
Forbach
**63 Commission d'Enquetes sur les Ovnis**
Valence
**64 Commission Nationale de Recherches sur les Objets Volantes non Idenifiees (CNROVNI)**
Vaujours
**65 GERS**

**66 Groupe d'Etudes Normand des Phenomenes Inconnus (GENPI)**
Caen
**67 Groupe d'Etudes Phenomenes Aerospatiaux non-identifiee (GEPAN)**
Toulouse
**68 Groupment d'Etude des Phenomenes Aeriens**
Paris
**69 Groupement de Recherches et d'Etudes du Phenomene OVNI (GREPO)**
Sorgues
**70 Groupement de Recherches Scientifiques sur les Ovnis (GRSOVNI)**
Montlucon
**71 Groupement Troyen de Recherches sur les Ovnis (GTROVNI)**
Troyes
**72 Lumieres dan la Nuit**
Haute-Loire
**73 OURANOS**
Grenoble
**74 Societe Varoise d'Etude des Phenomenes Spatiaux (SVEPS)**
Toulon

(cont. on next page)

*cont. from prev. page*

**76 Societe Vauclusienne d'Etude Des Phenomenes Spatiaux**
El Pontet
**77 Union des Groupements Espiologiques de France et des Pays de Langue Francaise**
Valence
**78 Verification et Etude des Ovni pour Nimes et la Contree Avoisante (VERONICA)**
Nimes

### SPAIN

**79 Centro de Estudios Interplanetarios (CEI)**
Barcelona
**80 Circulo de Estudios Sobre Objectos no Identificados**
Valencia

### PORTUGAL

**81 Centro de Estudos Astronomicos e de Fenomenos Insolitos**
Lisbon

### BELGIUM

**82 Groupement pour l'Etude des Sciences d'avant-garde**
Brussels
**83 Societe Belge d'Etude des Phenomenes Spatiaux (SOBEPS)**
Brussels

### NETHERLANDS

**84 Nederlands UFO Onderzaek Bureau**
The Hague
**85 NOBOVO**
Uithuizermeeder

### NORTHERN IRELAND

**86 UFO Research Centre**
Armagh

### ITALY

**87 Centro UFOlogico Nazionale**
Milan
**88 Gruppo Clypeus**
Turin
**89 Independent National Commission for the Study of Anomalous Aerial Phenomena (CNIFAA)**
Bologna
**90 La Contact International**
Rome
**91 S.H.A.D.O.**
Genoa

### DENMARK

**92 Dansk UFO Center**
Thisted
**93 Skandinavisk UFO Information (SUFOI)**
Kastrup
**94 UFO Studiekreds**
Copenhagen

### FINLAND

**95 The UFO Researchers of Finland**
Turku

### SCOTLAND

**96 Edinburgh University UFO Research Society**
Edinburgh

### SWEDEN

**97 Arbetsgruppen for UFOlogi**
Sodertalje
**98 Gotesborgs Informations Center for Oidentifierade Flygande Foremal**
Goteborg
**99 Swedish UFO Research Center**
Nassjo
**100 UFO Sverige**
Motala

### WEST GERMANY

**101 Centrales Enforschungsnetz Aubergewohnlicher Phanomene (CENAP)**
Mannheim
**102 UFO-SIG**
Berlin

### YUGOSLAVIA

**103 ODISEJA**
Slovenija

### JAPAN

**104 CAB International**
Yokohama

### NEW ZEALAND

**105 Civilian Saucer Investigation**
Auckland
**106 New Zealand Scientific Space Research Group**
Auckland

### AUSTRALIA

**107 Australian Co-ordination Section—Centre for UFO Studies (ACOS)**
Gosford, New South Wales
**108 Australian Flying Saucer Research Society**
Adelaide, South Australia
**109 Queensland UFO Research Bureau**
Brisbane, Queensland
**110 Tasmanian UFO Investigation Center (TUFOIC)**
Hobart, Tasmania
**111 UFO Information Center (UFOIC)**
Lane Cove, Victoria
**112 UFO Research Network**
Sydney, New South Wales
**113 Victoria UFO Research Society**
Moorabin, Victoria

INTERNATIONAL INCIDENTS OF INTEREST

# THE U.S. GOVERNMENT & THE IRAN CASE

## MORE INFORMATION ON THAT IRAN CASE . . . STRAIGHT FROM THE "TOP BRASS"!

In IUR Vol. 1, No. 1, a case in the Foreign Forum feature described an encounter between Iranian Air Force jets and a UFO which played "cat and mouse" with them, appearing on radar and "paralyzing" their weapons and electronics systems when the jets attempted to open fire on it. In the interim, rumors began to circulate that a government document detailing the incident was being examined by high government officials. UFO researcher Charles Huffer took an interest in securing a copy of this document while in Germany, but all his efforts met with official rebuffs. This past summer on a trip to the United States, Mr. Huffer managed to obtain a copy of the original teletype message reproduced below which gives details of the case from the Pentagon, under the auspices of the Freedom of Information Act.

What is particularly interesting about the document is the list of official agencies which received copies of the message. Briefly translating the official acronyms, the document was received by the following offices and agencies: the Secretary of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, the White House, the Air Force and Army Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Commander in Chief of U.S. Naval Forces in the Middle East, the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Air Force in Europe, the European Defense Air Command, and the Commander in Chief of Forces in Europe. An impressive list!

IUR and others have been intrigued by the fact that this particular UFO report seems to have become the concern of the "top brass" in the U.S. military defense structure. Do all UFO reports undergo this sort of distribution and what happens to them once they reach these prestigious offices?

IUR contacted the local state senator's office Military Liaison Officer who was able to be of some assistance in the matter. She called the Army, Navy, and Air Force offices in Washington as well as the Department of Defense and addressed these very questions on behalf of IUR. The answers were illuminating: all these agencies agreed that the "top brass" mentioned in the distribution list were routinely informed of *every* item of interest which comes out of the sensitive Middle East area. Hence, it is not unusual at all that copies of the report should have made their way to these offices. All correspondence that makes the military wires from this area is so relayed. As to whether or not all UFO reports from *every* area are conveyed to these sources, that question must remain unanswered at this time except by implication; any report from a "hot" area would be relayed. What happens to them once they reach the top brass is another thing. IUR was not able to glean any information on whether or not there exist any files, or a normal procedure in dealing with UFO sightings.

IUR was also able to find some information on the allowed international lighting configurations and colors. The initial, primary object, according to the report had alternating blue, green, red and orange lights. FAA Federal Aviation Regulation 43 (91.1) on General Operation and Flight Applicability states that blue lights are not authorized on U.S. planes. Furthermore, the International Civil Aviation Organization states that blue lights are illegal and that only certain stringently specified light confirguations are allowable on aircraft. However, IUR must point out that even in past sightings personally investigated, the witnesses have perceived the green navigational lights of planes as blue or blue-green.

## VERBATIM WIRE MESSAGE

This report forwards information concerning the sighting of an UFO in Iran on 19 September 1976.

A. At about 12: 30 AM on 19 Sep. 76 the _____ received four telephone calls from citizens living in the Shemiran area of Tehran saying that they had seen strange objects in the sky. Some reported a kind of bird-like object while others reported a helicopter with a light on. There were no helicopters airborne at that time.

After he told the citizen it was only stars and had talked to Mehrabad Tower he decided to look for himself. He noticed an object in the sky similar to a star bigger and brighter. He decided to scramble an F-4 from Shahrokhi AFB to investigate.

B. At 0130 hrs on the 19th the F-4 took off and proceeded to a point about 40 NM (nautical miles—Ed.) North of Tehran. Due to its brilliance the object was easily visible from 70 miles away. As the F-4 approached a range of 25 NM he lost all instrumentation and communications (UHF and intercom). He broke off the intercept and headed back to Shahrokhi. When the F-4 turned away from the object and apparently was no longer a threat to it the aircraft regained all instrumentation and communications. At 0140 hrs a second F-4 was launched. The backseater acquired a radar lock on at 27 NM, 12 o'clock high position with the VD (rate of closure) at 150 NMPH. As the range decreased to 25 NM the object moved away at a speed that was visible on the radar scope and stayed at 25 NM.

C. The size of the radar return was comparable to that of a 707 tanker. The visual size of the object was difficult to discern because of its intense brilliance. The light that it gave off was that of flashing strobe lights arranged in a rectangular pattern and alternating blue, green, red and orange in color. The sequence of the lights was so fast that all the colors could be seen at once. The object and the pursuing F-4 continued on a course to the south of Tehran when another brightly lighted object, estimated to be one half to one third the apparent size of the moon, came out of the original object. This second object headed straight toward the F-4 at a very fast rate of speed. The pilot attempted to fire an AIM-9 missile at the object but at that instant his weapons control panel went off and he lost all communications (UHF and Interphone). At this point the pilot initiated a turn and negative G dive to get away. As he turned the object fell in trail at what appeared to be about 3-4 NM as he continued in his turn away from the primary object the second object went to the inside of his turn then returned to the primary object for a perfect rejoin.

D. Shortly after the second object joined up with the primary object another object appeared to come out of the other side of the primary object going straight down at a great rate of speed. The F-4 crew had regained communications and the weapons control panel and watched the object approach the ground anticipating a large explosion. This object appeared to come to rest gently on the earth and cast a very bright light over an area of about 2-3 kilometers. The crew descended from their altitude of 25M to 15M and continued to observe and mark the object's position. They had some difficulty in adjusting their night visibility for landing so after orbiting Mehrabad a few times they went out for a straight in landing. There was a lot of interference on the UHF and each time they passed through a mag. bearing of 150 degree from Fhrarad they lost their communications. (UHF and Interphone) and the ins fluctuated (instruments —Ed.) from 30 degrees-50 degrees. The one civil airliner that was approaching Mehrabad during this same time experienced communications failure in the same vicinity (KILO ZULU) but did not report seeing anything. While the F-4 was on a long final approach the crew noticed another cylinder shaped object about the size of a T-bird at 10M [10,000 ft.—Ed.] with bright steady lights on each end and a flasher in the middle. When queried the tower stated there was no other known traffic in the area. During the time that the object passed over the F-4 the tower did not have a visual on it but picked it up after the pilot told them to look between the mountains and the refinery.

E. During daylight the F-4 crew was taken out to the area in a helicopter where the object apparently had landed. Nothing was noticed at the spot they thought the object landed (a dry lake bed) but as they circled off the the west of the area they picked up a very noticeable beeper signal. At the point where the return was the loudest was a small house with a garden. They landed and asked the people within if they had noticed anything strange last night. The people talked about a loud noise and a very bright light like lightning. The aircraft and area where the object is believed to have landed are being checked for possible radiation.

More information will be forwarded when it becomes available.

# FIRST PHOTOS OF GUATEMALA VIDEOTAPE

*The UFO about to pass behind a nearby tree . . .*

*. . . having just emerged from behind the tree . . .*

*. . . and moving off into the distance.*

In IUR, Vol. 2, No. 11, the Foreign Forum feature mentioned a case wherein a Guatemalan camera crew videotaping a car commercial turned their camera towards a "UFO" which fortuitously flew into their field of view. The incident took place on Oct. 5, 1977 at 10: 40 AM, in Guatemala City and is the first incident, to our knowledge, of a color videotape recording a "UFO." Through the

(cont. on next page)

# PROFILE: NOVEMBER, 1977

● —*IFO* ★ —*UFO*

| | |
|---|---|
| Aircraft | 19 |
| Stars and Planets | 18 |
| Ad Planes | 12 |
| Meteors | 8 |
| Searchlights | 3 |
| Helicopter | 2 |
| Balloons | 2 |
| Prank Balloon | 1 |
| Bird | 1 |
| Satellite | 1 |

**EXCLUSIONS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Non-UFO Trace | 1 |
| Unavailable witness | 1 |

**UFOs**

| | |
|---|---|
| I/L | 2 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Number of Reports | 71 |
| Average Per Day | 2.4 |
| Peak Activity (6 cases) | 11/5, 11/16 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Number of UFOs | 2 |
| Total Number of IFOs | 67 |

**UFOs:** 2.9% **IFOs:** 97.1%

UFOs include 3-1-12 and 3-1-20. Verifications and complete details of these evaluations are available upon request.

The most interesting of the non-UFO reports occurred on November 18 at about 6 PM. Two separate, independent reports were relayed to IUR via the UFO Hotline from the towns of Allendale and Zeeland, Michigan, both of which described roughly the same group of 3 bright lights in a perfect triangular formation which passed from horizon to horizon accompanied by a loud humming noise. One witness was so frightened by the apparition that she crouched down when it passed over. Her description portrayed a single bright light hovering over a field which then began to move slowly towards the car. When it came closer and the noise was heard, the bright light separated into three objects, each composed of one white intense light in front and red and green lights behind. The other witnesses were about ten miles away and saw the object(s) about fifteen minutes later. Their descriptions varied from *one* large object with red blinking lights around the edge of a circular disc ("like an advertisement") to three lights which "whipped across the road" almost instantly and were moving much too fast for aircraft. A third witness, following this couple, described three large white lights followed by red lights which moved very quickly "all over", then came together and hovered over a nearby woods. What could they be? IUR talked with the Grand Rapids Air Traffic Control who mentioned that they had been getting calls all evening about the unusual lights. They turned out to be three Air National Guard Cessna 337 Skymaster planes flying exercises at 2500'. Imagine if we only had the witness reports to consider! The great variation in reported appearance and behavior is significant. If witnesses can be shown to portray such a wide range of descriptions of the same known IFO stimulus, we certainly have to exercise caution when examining the "UFO" reports.

# GUATEMALA—continued

cont. from prev. page

courtesy of Mexico City TV broadcaster Mr. Pedro Ferriz, IUR has obtained a copy of the original videotape.

The entire incident lasts 51 seconds, from when the cameraman first swung the camera from the street scene to the object in the sky. The cameraman zoomed in and out several times in order to establish the object in a frame of reference of clouds and nearby trees.

It is certain that the shape of the object is distorted due to the glare of the object producing video saturation. This is not visible in the still photographs reproduced here but is quite apparent when the actual tape is viewed; the glare moves from side to side as the hand-held camera was moved. The object is seen to move behind a tree twenty seconds into the tape, and re-emerge after fifteen more seconds. No details can be seen on the "disc" and it appears to be in uniform motion. Eventually, the object moved out of sight in the distance. The cameraman stopped filming at 51 seconds when the object was nearly too small to be seen.

Unfortunately, IUR has not yet been able to obtain further information on the details of the case. Without these details, no value judgments can be made. At this point in time, IUR can only present the photographs at face value; when more details are learned in the near future, we will inform our readers.

UFOs of LIMITED MERIT (cont.) -

*able to positively identify it as a plane that turned on its interior and landing lights and later shut them off. However, they could not identify this man and so, the explanation can not be positively accepted. It is tempting to ascribe this extraordinarily detailed sighting to some sort of balloon or aircraft activity.*

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3-1-40 | NL | 12-6-77 | 9:05 PM | 10 min. | 2 | Big Sandy, TN |

A 58-year old man saw an unusual configuration of lights out his bedroom window in the east-northeast. The object was the size of a distant aircraft and was oriented like a vertical telephone pole with a steady red light on top and many white and blue steady lights down both sides. Joined by his wife, he observed the object to hover, then drop down, hover again, and glide extremely quickly to another hovering position. Eventually the object moved out of sight behind the trees in this jerky manner.

*Once again, the description and motion suggested that of a lighted balloon. However, IUR contacted the closest FAA facilities, the police and a local ad plane company with no results. The research balloon launching facility of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Palestine, Texas was also contacted and though their balloons routinely reach this region of the country, they could not suggest a launching which would account for this sighting. Possible balloon.*

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EDITORIAL (cont.) -

I pointed out to him that while it is impossible, for instance, to bring a tornado into the laboratory, it was quite possible to study the effects of tornadoes. Similarly, one can study the physical traces reportedly associated with UFOs. NASA and others are not aware of the work, for instance, of Ted Phillips and others in collecting evidence on such cases. NASA might well have a team ready to plunge into action the very next time a UFO trace case is reported. Certainly that is well within NASA's capabilities and responsibilities. But should NASA become involved with reported "abduction" cases, psychological tests of witnesses, and with hypnotic regressions? Might this not better be left to the private sector but perhaps with NASA's guidance and blessing?

NASA might take a cue from university administrators. Often when a sticky problem arises with which no particular department of the University wishes to tangle (arguing that the problem overlaps several departments, etc.), a special group is appointed that is made directly responsible and answerable to the university president's office alone. Might not this be a good way to handle this problem? Let scientists and others who already have a solid acquaintance with UFOs be brought together and assigned the problem with special funds appropriated by Congress? Should it fail in its mission, the responsibility would not rest with NASA but if it succeeded, NASA, as the guiding agency, would reap the credit and benefits.

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# COMMENTARY

Sleep well, Chester, Illinois. . .
It's UFOlogy that's Hurting
by Allan Hendry

I hadn't really planned to devote any further time to the fictitious shenanigans of Countrywide Publication's newsstand magazine, OFFICIAL UFO but as OUFO is fond of saying, my "desk was flooded with requests" for confirmation about a *wire story* on the destruction of buildings in the small southern Illinois town of Chester by UFOs. The source: OFFICIAL UFO, naturally, but that didn't stop the news services from carrying the story and calling the Center for UFO Studies about it.

"City Sheriff Luke Grisholm" (a nom de plume) prepared the account for their January, 1978 issue. The article asserted that on the night of August 2, 1977, the sheriff tried in vain to get outside help from Chanute Air Force Base while flying saucers swooped down and set fire to houses and buildings, knocked out power and phone lines, and inspired panic and auto accidents all over town. The event was climaxed by a local TV station placing a live camera on a rooftop (against secret orders to squelch the story) and televising the UFOs surrounding an Air Force jet. They even were "able" to broadcast the pilot's panicked voice, somehow. Naturally, the courageous program director was fired for "interfering with national programming", and his videotape of the event was impounded by "someone from Washington." Exciting? There's just one problem. Like everything else in OUFO, it's 100% fiction, portrayed as fact (see Correspondence, Nov. 1977).

I received a lot of calls inquiring about the "attack", so, like an idiot, I called the sheriff in Randolph County. You see, as the real sheriff pointed out, there's no such thing as a "city sheriff" in Chester, nor is there any Mayor "Uhlan Moulton" (his real name is Stanley Macieiski). He had already received many inquiries about the story . . . a TV station in St. Louis even sent a camera crew down to talk to him. Needless to say, no one in the whole town had any recollection of Chester, Illinois being devastated last August.

OFFICIAL UFO earns top honors for sheer audacity. They even trotted out some stock photos which they claimed showed the imaginary sheriff (with his eyes, and the car's insignia, blotted out), the town burning, and a detective interviewing a Chester resident. In a separate article in the same issue, they got their facts screwed up, saying that the TVs in Chester were taken over by a flying saucer occupant on August of this year . . . or were these poor folks beseiged twice in one month, first by hostile aliens, followed by benevolent ones who are here "to remove radioactive particles from our air"? Please!

The concerned public is the ultimate loser here, since the "establishment" press circulated the story nationwide. The large circulation magazine is emminently accessible, more so than subscription newsletters trying to portray the *facts* such as this one. Put yourself in the position of the editor trying to convince a "once-burned" press that OFFICIAL UFO's stories are false, yet *our* stories are "true" (that is, truly alleged . . . by real people). Also how can the public easily discern which UFO claims to believe . . . and which to dismiss?